# Why Volunteer?

#### For You

Volunteering feels good! Volunteers at our properties enjoy our wildlife and history, try new things, get to know the staff and visitors, spend volunteer time with family or special friends and share their expertise to help us with unique projects.

#### For Us

Our volunteer goals include:

- Support existing staff projects/ programs.
- Provide personal contact with a DNR representative to a greater number of our visitors.
- Build close ties with neighboring communities.
- Unify and connect state park/ reservoir volunteers statewide.
- Support and reward all volunteers appropriately.

# What Makes a **Successful Volunteer?**

A successful volunteer is flexible, friendly and willing to share skills in a specific area. A successful volunteer comes to learn, try new things and enjoy our natural and cultural resources. A successful volunteer understands and believes in our mission and doesn't come with an "agenda" or plans to change the site. Volunteers are expected to abide by Division and Department policies and rules, just as employees do.

## What Can I Do?

#### **Individual Volunteers**

Serve on a regular basis as interpretive center hosts, education volunteers, resource management projects, campground hosts and VIP workers.

#### **Group Volunteers**

Work as a part of an organized scout troop, school class, service club or other group. Complete one time projects or long-term service, such as an Adopt-a-Trail project (available at a few sites.)

#### Student Interns

Attend high school, college or similar program and receive credit or excused time for work generally related to a future career.

### **Youth/Family Volunteers**

Individual families who volunteer together for specific projects.
Each property has volunteer opportunities, but not all have projects available all the time. Materials, other programs/projects and staff on hand for supervision impact the number of projects available. Possibilities include but are not limited to:

Nature Center Host Trail Work Litter Pickup Clean bird houses Painting Greet visitors Grant writer Office assistant Campground host Hike leader Historic reenactor Craft demonstrator
Program promoter
Bee keeper
Interp. Center Librarian
Photographer
Animal care/feeding
Gardener
Wildlife surveyor
Pull garlic mustard
Woodworker
Repair/maintenance

### **How Do I Get Started?**

## Regular Volunteers or One-Time, Special Projects

- Contact the property where you would like to volunteer and let the property coordinator know your interests and available time.
- Complete a volunteer application form. It will be reviewed just as a job application is reviewed.
- If the property Volunteer
  Coordinator believes that your
  skills and interests will meet
  specific needs on the property,
  the two of you will work out
  a time and project schedule. If
  the property does not have a
  project that they need assistance
  with at the time, the coordinator
  will let you know that as well,
  and will keep your name on hand
  for future reference.
- You will be asked to sign an agreement that you accept Worker's Compensation as coverage in case of an injury.

#### **Groups**

- Contact the property coordinator at least two weeks in advance of the date you'd like to visit.
- Expect to complete a volunteer agreement, indicating you accept coverage from Worker's Compensation in case of an injury. Youth(under age 18) participants require a parent or guardian's signature.

# What Benefits Do I Receive?

- A volunteer handbook and training where appropriate.
- Free admission (for each volunteer only) during service.
- Free or reduced camping fees (Campground host/VIP only).
- Volunteer identification (button or nametag, depending on type and length of service).
- Annual recognition/awards for specific levels of service.
- Volunteer newsletter (for 50+ hours of continuing service).
- The satisfaction of supporting the interpretation and management of our natural and cultural resources.
- Lots of thank yous from DNR staff!!!!

Note: Volunteers do not drive DNR vehicles or wear DNR uniforms.



---Margaret Mead

# Campground Host/Volunteers In Parks(VIP)

The Division of State Parks and Reservoirs offers these volunteer programs that include free or reduced camping fees. Properties may choose to offer either or both programs, depending on their needs and site availability.

#### **Campground Host**

- •Work up to 20 hrs per week per site
- Maximum 1-2 sites(varies by property)\*
- Seasons offered determined by property
- Weekends and holidays included
- Typically 30 day maximum service
- Duties determined by property manager
- •Minimum service 1-2 weeks
- •Camping fee waived during service

#### **Volunteers in Parks (VIP)**

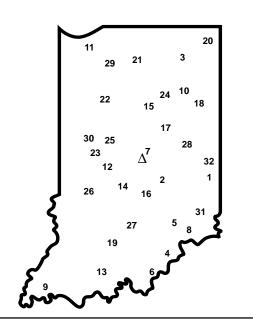
- •Work a minimum of 20 hours/week/site
- Maximum 1-2 sites(varies by property)\*
- Seasons offered determined by property
- Weekends and holidays included
- •Typically 30 day maximum service
- Duties determined by property manager
- •Minimum service 1 weekend; 1-2 wks preferred
- Camping fee reduced for weekend service or waived for longer periods of service.

## **How to Contact Us**

1. Brookville Lake	765/647-2657
2. Brown Co. State Park	812/988-7185
3. Chain O'Lakes State Park	219/636-2654
4. Charlestown State Park	812/256-5600
5. Clifty Falls State Park	812/273-0609
6. Falls of the Ohio State Park	812/280-9970
7. Ft. Harrison State Park	317/591-0904
8. Hardy Lake	812/794-3800
9. Harmonie State Park.	812/682-4821
10.Huntington Lake	219/468-2165
11.Indiana Dunes State Park	219/926-1390
12.Lieber SRA(Cagles Mill Lake)	765/795-4576
13.Lincoln State Park	812/937-4710
14.McCormick's Creek State Pk.	812/829-4344
15.Mississinewa Lake	765/473-6528
16.Monroe Lake	812/837-9546
17.Mounds State Park	765/649-8128
18.Ouabache State Park	219/824-0926
19.Patoka Lake	812/685-2447
20.Pokagon State Park	812/833-2012
21.Potato Creek State Park	219/656-8186
22. Prophetstown State Park	765/427-5574
23.Raccoon Lk./Mansfield Mill	765/344-1412
24.Salamonie Lake	219/468-2127
25.Shades State Park	765/435-2810
26.Shakamak State Park	812/665-2158
27.Spring Mill State Park	812/849-4129
28.Summit Lake State Park	765/766-5873
29. Tippecanoe River State Park	219/946-3213

765/597-2654
812/689-6424
765/458-5565

Δ Division Vol. Coordinator 800/622-4931





e mission of Indiana's State Parks and Reservoirs is to manage and interpret our properties' is natural, wildlife and cultural resources using principles of multiple use and preservation, while sustaining the integrity of these resources for current and future generations.



## Indiana State Parks and Reservoirs

- How You Can Volunteer
  - Who to Contact
    - Volunteer Projects

Nature Center Host • Trail Work Litter Pickup • Clean bird houses Greet visitors • Wildlife surveyor Office assistant • Photographer Campground host • Hike leader Bee keeper • Historic reenactor Craft demonstrator • Gardener Program promoter • Grant writer Interpretive Center Librarian Animal care/feeding • Painting Pull garlic mustard • Woodworker Repair/maintenance

#### DNR

Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of State Parks and Reservoirs
402 W. Washington Room W298
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-622-4931

<sup>\*</sup> Some properties operate more than one campground. Volunteers may be assigned to individual campground locations based on campground usage and needs. Not available at Fort Harrison, Falls of the Ohio, or Prophetstown State Parks.